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Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SIG-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
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TO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY LILONGWE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 054437

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PDEV, RH

SUBJECT: RHODESIA: ALLEGHENY-LUDLUM OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON
RECENT DEVELOPMENTS.

1. ALLEGHENY-LUDLUM VICE PRESIDENT E.F. (ANDY) ANDREWS
CALLED ON DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY EDMONDSON FEBRUARY
28 TO DISCUSS RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN RHODESIA. ANDREWS
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SAID HE HAD RETURNED FROM SALISBURY FEBRUARY 19 AND REMAIN-
ED IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH HIS CONTACTS THERE.

2. BASED ON MEETINGS HE HAD HAD WITH MAJOR FIGURES
ENGAGED IN THE"INTERNAL SETTLEMENT" EFFORT, INCLUDING
MUZOREWA, CHIKEREMA, SITHOLE, CHIRAU, AND SMITH, ANDREWS
ASSERTED THAT AN ANNOUNCEMENT OF AN AGREEMENT ON

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CONSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE TRANSITION TO A BLACK MAJORITY GOVERNMENT WAS IMMINENT. AT THE CORE OF AN AGREEMENT,HE SAID, WILL BE THE PRESENT RHODESIAN CONSTITUTION WHICH WILL BE AMENDED TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT MEASURES AGREED UPON BY THE"INTERNAL" LEADERS. AWHITE REFERENDUM WOULD BE NECESSARY TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS.

3. ANDREWS SAID THAT AS FAR AS POSSIBLE MEASURES AGREED UPON BY THE PARTIES WOULD BE "ENTRENCHED" IN THE

AMENDED CONSTITUTION. ENTRENCHED PROVISIONS ARE EXPECTED TO INCLUDE:

A. A BILL OF RIGHTS IDENTICAL WITH OR PATTERNED AFTER THE EXISTING CONSTITUTION'S BILL OF RIGHTS, PROTECTING THE FREEDOM OF INDIVIDUALS AND PROPERTY RIGHTS;

B. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS FOR AN INDEPENDENT JUDICIARY (THE PRESENT JUDICIARY WOULD BE RETAINED);

C. AN INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD (THE EXISTING BOARD HAS ONLY STATUTORY STATUS);

D. A 100-SEAT PARLIAMENT WITH 28 SEATS RESERVED FOR WHITES, OF WHICH 20 WOULD BE FILLED BY WHITE VOTERS AND CONFIDENTIAL

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EIGHT BY VOTERS ON A COMMON ROLE (THE CANDIDATES FOR THE EIGHT SEATS WOULD BE NOMINATED BY WHITE MPS);

E. A STIPULATION THAT THE 28 WHITE SEATS WILL BE KEPT FOR THE LONGER OF 10 YEARS OR TWO PARLIAMENTS. A COMMISSION HEADED BY A HIGH COURT JUDGE AND APPOINTED BY THE GOVERN-MENT WOULD THEN REVIEW THE SITUATION. IT WOULD TAKE THE VOTES OF AT LEAST 51 MPS TO RESCIND THE PROVISION FOR RESERVED WHITE SEATS;

F. A REQUIREMENT THAT AT LEAST 73 VOTES (I.E. ALL BLACK VOTES AND ONE WHITE VOTE) WILL BE NECESSARY TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION;

G. A GUARANTEE OF PENSIONS AND THE RIGHT TO REMIT THEM OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY.

3. IN ADDITION TO PROVISIONS TO BE WRITTEN INTO THE CONSTITUTION, SMITH AND INTERNAL BLACK LEADERS HAVE REACHED OTHER UNDERSTANDINGS:

A. SMITH WILL NOT SEEK TO BE A "KINGMAKER" BY USING THE

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28-VOTE WHITE BLOC TO FORM A RULING COALITION WITH A MINORITY BLACK GROUP;

B. THE SELOUS AND GREY SCOUTS WOULD BE DISBANDED;

C. THERE WILL BE AN AMNESTY FOR PATRIOTIC FRONT MEMBERS WHO WILL BE ALLOWED TO RETURN PEACEFULLY. THEY WILL BE OFFERED EDUCATIONAL AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING COURSES AND ENTRY INTO THE EXISTING ARMY. ANDREWS CLAIMED THAT IN SALISBURY 50-50 ODDS WERE BEING GIVEN THAT NKOMO WOULD THROW IN HIS LOT WITH THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT. SHOULD THE

PF CONTINUE ITS STRUGGLE, CURRENT THINKING THERE IS THAT "GUERRILLA HAVENS" INSIDE RHODESIA WOULD DRY UP, HALF OF CONFIDENTIAL

THE GUERRILLAS OUTSIDE WOULD WANT TO "COME HOME", AND THAT SOME HARD-CORE GUERRILLA FIGHTERS WOULD REMAIN OUT-SIDE.

4. ANDREWS SAID THAT THE FORM OF THE TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT HAS YET TO BE RESOLVED. SMITH WOULD LIKE TO BE CHAIRMAN OF A TRANSITIONAL COMMITTEE, BUT THE OTHERS ARE OPPOSED AND FAVOR A DIFFERENT ARRANGEMENT SUCH AS A ROTATING CHAIRMANSHIP OR A NEUTRAL CHAIRMAN WITHOUT A VOTE (FOR EXAMPLE, FORMER GOVERNOR GENERAL SIR HUMPHREY GIBBS). HOWEVER, ANDREWS BELIEVES THAT ALL THE PARTIES ARE EAGER TO WORK OUT THIS PROBLEM AND ANNOUNCE AN AGREEMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. CHRISTOPHER

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